FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 24, 2003

This is my annual reminder to the state's print media about North Dakota's upcoming birthday. I encourage you to commemorate this special day in your newspaper by bringing the state's birthday to the attention of your readers with a related story or even by acknowledging it with a simple Happy Birthday North Dakota greeting on your front page. Or, if you wish, here is a story that you are welcomed to use.

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## November 2, 2003 - North Dakota is 114 Years Old

**Bismarck**, **ND** – On Sunday, November 2, 2003, North Dakota will be 114 years old. It became the 39th state admitted to the union when President Harrison signed the proclamation of admission on November 2, 1889. According to legend, the President first shuffled the respective proclamations for North and South Dakota so it would never be known which state's proclamation he signed first. The first Governor of North Dakota was John Miller whose first duty was to call the legislature into special session on November 19, 1889, for the purpose of electing two U. S. Senators.